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STATISTICAL SUMMARY

Agricultural Marketing Service, U.S.D.A.

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"Intentions" Point to Larger Acreage

Acreage planted to crops this year is expected to be 2 percent above the low levels of the past 2 years but about 5 percent below the early 1950's. Farmers planting intentions, March 1, indicate a total of about 339 million acres. This would exceed last year's unusually small planted acreage by 8.4 million and that of 1957 by 5.1 million acres. These indications are from Crop Reporting Board's "Prospective Plantings for 1959."

Soil Bank Affects Totals

Discontinuance of the Acreage Reserve Program released about 17 million allotted acres which were in the program in 1958. Additional sign-up of land in the Conservation Reserve increased the acreage in that program by about 13 million acres over 1958. But on many of the major corn and wheat producing farms, substantial acreages were released for planting from the Acreage Reserve Program with a relatively small sign-up in the Conservation Reserve.

Principal Changes from Last Year

Biggest prospective increase over last year is in corn, up 9.3 million acres. Spring wheat acreage may be up 1.1 million acres; barley up 0.8 million acres; smaller increases for rice, tobacco, dry beans and peas, sugar beets, and sweet potatoes. Reductions from last year include hay, oats, soybeans, sorghums, flaxseed, potatoes and peanuts.

Here is a rundown of prospective acreages, showing the percentage change for this year compared with last:

Crop	Planted 1958	Indicated 1959	Increase or Decrease
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Percent
Corn, all	74,654	83,921	+ 12.4
All spring wheat	12,343	13,405	+ 8.6
Durum	947	1,273	+ 34.4
Other spring	11,396	12,132	+ 6.5
Oats	38,430	35,998	- 6.3
Barley	16,268	17,093	+ 5.1
Flaxseed	4,014	3,678	- 8.4
Rice	1,444	1,603	+ 11.0
Sorghums	21,176	20,440	- 3.5
Potatoes, all	1,498	1,392	- 7.1
Sweet potatoes	272	275	+ 1.1
Tobacco	1,081	1,161	+ 7.4
Beans, dry edible	1,644	1,656	+ .7
Peas, dry field	227	311	+ 37.0
Soybeans	24,900	23,172	- 6.9
Peanuts	1,755	1,702	- 3.0
Hay	73,033	70,499	- 3.5
Sugar Beets	933	942	+ .9

Increase in Feed Grain Acreage

Prospective feed grain acreage--at about 157 million acres--is nearly 5 percent larger than in 1958. Corn acreage may exceed last year by 9

million acres, or 12 percent. This would be the largest acreage in corn since 1949. Corn acreage intentions top last year's planted acreage in nearly all except mid-South States, show the sharpest increases in the Corn Belt. The increase for corn will be partially offset by reduced plantings of oats and sorghum--oats by about 6 percent and sorghum by 3 percent. Barley acreage is indicated larger than last year by about 5 percent.

More Acres for Food

Food grain acreage is likely to be about 3 percent more than last year. Total wheat acreage at 58.5 million acres would top a year ago by about 2 million acres--nearly a million acres more winter wheat and an increase of more than a million acres in spring wheat. Rice acreage is likely to be up 11 percent from last year.

Smaller Acreage for Hay--Above Average Crop Expected

Acreage for hay, indicated at 70.5 million acres, shows a 3 percent decline from the 73

Prices of Farm Products

Commodity	Average Prices received by farmers		Effective parity prices
	Jan. 15 1959	Feb. 15 1959	Based on data for Feb. 1959
Basic commodities:			
Cotton, Amer. upland (lb.)	28.23	28.27	37.87
Wheat (bu.)	1.71	1.74	2.36
Rice (100 lb.)	4.85	4.94	5.82
Corn (bu.)	1.02	1.04	1.69
Peanuts (lb.)	10.6	11.0	12.9
Designated nonbasic commodities:			
Butterfat in cream (lb.)	58.6	58.3	73.4
Milk, wholesale (100 lb.)	4.34	4.24	4.93
Wool (lb.)	2 35.6	2 35.1	71.9
Other nonbasic commodities:			
Barley (bu.)911	.922	1.28
Cottonseed (ton)	43.30	43.80	66.80
Flaxseed (bu.)	2.59	2.58	3.95
Hay, baled (ton)	19.30	19.30	25.10
Oats (bu.)590	.599	.835
Potatoes (cwt.)	1.21	1.10	2.31
Rye (bu.)967	.986	1.50
Sorghum, grain (100 lb.)	1.73	1.75	2.53
Soybeans (bu.)	2.02	2.05	2.89
Sweet potatoes (cwt.)	4.47	4.36	5.52
Oranges, on tree (box)	2.45	2.67	2.20
Apples, for fresh use (bu.)	2.47	2.57	3.12
Beef cattle (100 lb.)	22.90	22.80	23.10
Calves (100 lb.)	27.80	28.40	25.40
Hogs (100 lb.)	16.40	15.40	21.60
Lambs (100 lb.)	18.40	18.10	25.60
Chickens, all (lb.)	16.7	16.6	26.8
Eggs (dozen)	36.4	35.4	47.2

¹ Preliminary

² Does not include incentive payment to bring season average return to 62 cents per pound.

million acres cut last year. There is a heavy carry over of hay into the 1959 season from the record crops in '57 and '58.

Based on intended acreage and average yields by States, this year's hay production would be about 109 million tons, 10 percent less than last year but 2 percent above the 1948-57 average.

Plans May Be Altered Before Planting

Acreages actually planted to crops in 1959 may turn out to be larger or smaller than indicated. Various reasons, such as weather, the agricultural program, and price changes, lead farmers to alter their plans. The Crop Reporting Board issues the intentions report in order to assist growers in making such further acreage changes as may appear desirable.

Prospects for Wheat

If growers carry out their planting intentions and yields per planted acre this year equal the 1954-58 average by States, an all spring wheat

Statistical Series of Interest to Agriculture

Item	1958			1959	
	Feb.	Yr.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.
	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.
Nonfarm employment, (civilian) ¹	57.2	58.1	59.0	58.0	58.0
Farm employment	5.7	7.5	5.6	5.3	5.7
Family	4.7	5.6	4.6	4.4	4.6
Hired	1.0	2.0	1.0	1.0	1.1
	Index numbers (1947-49=100)				
Industrial production ²	130	134	142	143	144
Total personal income payments ³	171	174	177	178	-
Weekly factory earnings ⁴	145	149	160	158	158
Average earnings of factory workers, per worker ⁴	152	158	166	165	165
Wholesale prices, all commodities ⁴	119	119	119	120	120
Farm commodities	96	95	91	92	91
Food, processed	110	111	109	109	108
Consumer price index ⁴	122	124	124	124	-
Food	119	120	119	119	-
	Index numbers (1910-14=100)				
Prices received by farmers.....	246	250	244	244	243
Crops	219	224	213	215	218
Food grains	221	208	199	199	203
Feed grains and hay	145	154	151	152	154
Cotton	211	253	256	238	239
Tobacco	475	482	505	500	505
Oil bearing crops.....	225	225	214	218	221
Fruit	199	249	217	211	225
Vegetables for fresh market	306	242	220	266	264
Livestock and products	269	272	269	270	265
Meat animals	321	334	327	328	322
Dairy products	263	254	270	264	259
Poultry and eggs	169	167	154	160	158
Prices paid by farmers					
All commodities.....	271	273	274	276	275
Used in living	286	287	287	288	288
Used in production	260	264	265	268	267
Commodities, interest, taxes, and wage rates (parity index)	291	293	295	298	297
Farm wage rates, seasonally adjusted...	567	574	594	610	610
Parity ratio (prices received to parity index)	85	85	83	82	82

crop of 233 million bushels would be produced. Based on conditions as of December 1, 1958, a winter wheat crop of 957 million bushels was forecast for 1959. These add to a possible all wheat crop of 1,190 million bushels, compared with the record all wheat production of 1,462 million bushels in 1958.

Smaller Naval Stores Production

Gum naval stores production during February was reported at 3,960 barrels of turpentine and 12,610 drums of rosin. Production for the crop year through February was 8 percent less than for the same period last season. Production of steam distilled turpentine, at 13,710 barrels, was 1,460 barrels less than for February a year ago, while sulphate turpentine production of 28,830 barrels was about 4,000 barrels larger than for the same month last season. Production of steam distilled and tall oil rosin totaled 94,930 and 28,820 drums, respectively.

Rosin Stocks Lower

Stocks of gum rosin on February 28 were reported at 535,030 drums, down 14,270 drums from the month before, while wood rosin stocks, at 81,560 drums, were down 4,880 drums.

Livestock and Livestock Products

Item	Unit	January 1958	January 1959
<u>Dairy Production</u>			
Milk	Bil. lb.	¹ 19.1	¹ 19.1
Evaporated whole milk	Mil. lb.	143.5	143.5
Dry nonfat milk solids (for human food).....	Mil. lb.	139.1	137.1
Butter, creamery	Mil. lb.	118.6	116.0
Cheese, American	Mil. lb.	66.5	67.3
Ice cream	Mil. gal.	43.7	44.3
<u>Poultry Production</u>			
Eggs	Billions	¹ 10.0	¹ 10.5
Poultry meat ²	Mil. lb.	360	402
Canned poultry.....	Mil. lb.	25.0	23.2
Liquid egg	Mil. lb.	31.3	36.4
Dried egg (egg solids)	Mil. lb.	1.8	3.0
Frozen egg	Mil. lb.	22.8	22.4
Chicks hatched, total ³	Millions	¹ 277	¹ 300
Chicks hatched, broiler ³	Millions	¹ 373	¹ 395
Poult hatched ³ :			
Heavy breeds	Millions	¹ 7.1	¹ 7.0
Light breeds.....	Millions	¹ 1.8	¹ 2.8
<u>Meat Production²</u> (dressed weight)			
Beef.....	Mil. lb.	1,210	1,127
Veal.....	Mil. lb.	106	77
Pork	Mil. lb.	892	965
Lamb and mutton.....	Mil. lb.	59	75
Total red meat.....	Mil. lb.	2,267	2,244
<u>Slaughter²</u>			
Cattle	1,000 head	2,202	1,915
Calves.....	1,000 head	904	676
Hogs	1,000 head	6,714	7,030
Sheep and lambs.....	1,000 head	1,196	1,495

¹ Bureau of the Census

³ Department of Commerce

² Federal Reserve Board.

⁴ Bureau of Labor Statistics.

¹ January-February

³ By commercial hatcheries.

² Commercial; excludes farm slaughter.

Favorable Moisture Supplies

Great Plain's subsoils had favorable moisture as of March 1. Surface soils were dry in much of the northern and southern portions but normal spring precipitation was expected to provide adequate moisture in most localities.

East of the Mississippi, and in Texas' coastal sections, moisture supplies were generally adequate to excessive. In the Western mountains, recent snows brightened run-off prospects.

14% More Oranges than Last Year

Orange crop (1958-59 season, including tangerines) estimated at 127 million boxes, is 14 percent above last year and 3 percent above average. Estimate includes 66.7 million boxes Early and Midseason, of which 15.5 million boxes are California Navels; 56 million Valencias; and 4.5 million of tangerines. California, Florida, Texas, and Louisiana have more oranges than last year, smaller crops in Arizona.

Utilization of oranges to March 1 was below that of a year ago. About 64 million boxes of oranges remained to be harvested, compared with 43.7 million a year ago.

Grapefruit Crop Larger by 9%

Grapefruit crop, at 43.5 million boxes, is 9 percent above last year but 3 percent below average. More grapefruit than last year in Florida and Texas, less in California and Arizona.

Utilization of grapefruit to March 1 was 23.9 million boxes compared with 28.6 million a year ago, and 23.7 million 2 years ago.

Smaller Crops of Lemons and Limes

California's lemon crop, at 16.5 million boxes, is 2 percent less than last year but 24 percent above average. Florida limes, at 190,000 boxes, are about half as many as last year; tangelos, at 320,000 boxes, 9 percent less than last year but about the same as 2 years ago.

Changes in Fresh Vegetable Prospects

Winter vegetable production is estimated to be 3 percent larger than in 1958 but 7 percent below average. The reduction from a month ago - amounting to about 4 percent - is due to reduced prospects in Florida. More tomatoes, snap beans, green peppers and sweet corn are expected than last year; smaller increases for escarole, celery, eggplant, cucumbers, and broccoli. Materially less than last year are carrots, lettuce, cabbage, and cauliflower.

Of the early spring crops for which forecasts have been made, only onions are expected to be less than in 1958. Growers intentions point to a 12-percent increase in the late summer crop.

Milk Output Same as a Year Ago

Production of 9,344 million pounds of milk in February was practically the same as in February last year, though topping average for that month by 9 percent. On a per capita basis, production at 1.90 pounds per person per day was slightly less than a year earlier, also less than average for the month.

Egg Production up 7 Percent

The 5,103 million eggs laid in February compare with 4,762 million for the same month last year—an increase of 7 percent.

All regions show increases over last year: 18 percent in the South Atlantic, 14 percent in the South Central, 6 percent in the East North Central, 5 percent in the North Atlantic and in the West, and 4 percent in the West North Central region.

Number of layers on March 1 totaled 315,663,000, compared with 307,425,000 on same date last year—an increase of 3 percent.

Cash Receipts From Farm Marketings by States, January 1959¹

State	Livestock and products	Crops	Total
	1,000 dollars	1,000 dollars	1,000 dollars
Maine.....	8,813	4,959	13,772
New Hampshire.....	4,099	829	4,928
Vermont.....	8,046	1,045	9,091
Massachusetts.....	8,496	3,088	11,584
Rhode Island.....	1,032	430	1,462
Connecticut.....	8,031	4,011	12,042
New York.....	51,092	16,483	67,575
New Jersey.....	15,896	4,571	20,467
Pennsylvania.....	48,868	16,225	65,093
Ohio.....	52,739	24,598	77,337
Indiana.....	56,161	30,492	86,653
Illinois.....	98,883	86,574	185,457
Michigan.....	34,292	25,342	59,634
Wisconsin.....	87,896	10,961	98,857
Minnesota.....	84,774	40,042	124,816
Iowa.....	170,287	63,585	233,872
Missouri.....	57,387	25,422	82,809
North Dakota.....	17,623	32,596	50,219
South Dakota.....	47,085	17,013	64,098
Nebraska.....	74,112	76,566	150,678
Kansas.....	55,698	76,235	131,933
Delaware.....	5,188	899	6,087
Maryland.....	15,087	3,056	18,143
Virginia.....	17,634	14,877	32,511
West Virginia.....	5,877	2,674	8,551
North Carolina.....	21,919	20,305	42,224
South Carolina.....	7,551	7,584	15,135
Georgia.....	29,456	10,515	39,971
Florida.....	15,227	98,139	113,366
Kentucky.....	20,189	50,420	70,609
Tennessee.....	17,328	23,456	40,784
Alabama.....	19,950	9,162	29,112
Mississippi.....	15,316	19,851	35,167
Arkansas.....	14,576	23,056	37,632
Louisiana.....	10,695	20,472	31,167
Oklahoma.....	26,461	16,300	42,761
Texas.....	71,896	162,671	234,567
Montana.....	17,356	26,283	43,639
Idaho.....	15,907	20,756	36,663
Wyoming.....	3,522	3,040	6,562
Colorado.....	27,533	27,964	55,497
New Mexico.....	8,314	12,262	20,576
Arizona.....	8,189	27,527	35,716
Utah.....	9,455	2,543	11,998
Nevada.....	3,483	684	4,167
Washington.....	17,861	33,974	51,835
Oregon.....	14,638	17,576	32,214
California.....	85,997	126,807	212,804
United States.....	1,517,915	1,343,920	2,861,835

¹All figures represent sales of farm products, plus Commodity Credit loans reported during the month minus Commodity Credit loans repaid during the month. For comparisons of cash receipts with earlier months and years, see issues of the Farm Income Situation.

Cash Receipts from Farming and Index of Volume of Farm Marketings, United States¹

	January 1959	February ² 1959
CASH RECEIPTS	<i>Mil. dol.</i>	<i>Mil. dol.</i>
Total marketings and CCC loans ³	2,862	2,300
Livestock and products	1,518	1,400
Meat animals	888	
Dairy products.....	366	
Poultry and eggs	238	
Other	26	
Crops	1,344	0,900
Food grains.....	197	
Feed crops	380	
Cotton (lint and seed).....	227	
Oil-bearing crops.....	105	
Tobacco	82	
Vegetables	105	
Fruits and tree nuts.....	130	
Other	118	
Government payments.....	47	
Grand total	2,909	
VOLUME OF FARM MARKETINGS:	1947-49 = 100	
All commodities	127	104
Livestock and products.....	120	113
Crops	135	92

¹ For comparison with earlier months and years, see issues of the Farm Income Situation.

² Preliminary.

³ Receipts from loans represent value of loans minus value of redemptions during the month.

Farm-Retail Price Spreads

Farm-Retail Spread and Farmer's Share of the Consumer's Dollar for Market Basket of Farm-food Products

Year and month	Retail cost ¹	Farm value ²	Farm-retail spread	Farmer's share
1958 average	\$1,065	\$427	\$638	40%
1958 January	1,042	422	620	40%
1958 December	1,042	400	642	38%
1959 January	1,048	407	641	39%

¹ Retail cost of average quantities of farm foods purchased per urban wage-earner and clerical-worker family in 1952, calculated from retail prices collected by Bureau of Labor Statistics.

² Payment to farmers for equivalent quantities of farm produce minus imputed value of byproducts obtained in processing.

Lower Prices for Eggs and Chickens

Farmers received 35.4 cents a dozen for eggs (U. S. average) in mid-February, compared with 36.6 a year earlier. Chickens averaged 16.6 cents a pound live weight, compared with 19.4 cents in mid-February 1958.

Feeding Less Favorable Than a Year Ago

At \$3.41 per 100 pounds, the cost of the farm poultry ration in mid-February was up 9 cents from a year earlier. Broiler growing mash at \$4.94 compared with \$4.80 a year earlier and turkey growing mash at \$4.92 compared with \$4.69 a year earlier. The egg-feed, farm-chicken, broiler-feed, and turkey-feed price relationships were all less favorable last month than a year earlier.

Farm Numbers Down 18% in 10 Years

Number of U. S. Farms in operation in 1958 is estimated at 4,749,000--2 percent less than in 1957 and 18 percent below the number 10 years ago. (For breakdown by States, see "Number of Farms by States - 1958 - 1957," issued by Crop Reporting Board, AMS, USDA, March 4, 1959).

Early Lamb Crop about the Same as in '58

Number of breeding ewes was up 4 percent on January 1 from a year earlier in the principal early lamb producing States. But a decrease in the proportion of ewes lambing early has offset the increase, so that the number of early lambs is about the same as last year. The ten important early lamb States are Missouri, Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee, Texas, Idaho, Arizona, Washington, Oregon and California.

Sows To Farrow Up 10 Percent

The estimated 5,558,000 sows farrowed and intended to farrow in the spring of 1959 (December through May) for 9 of the Corn Belt States would be 10 percent larger than in the spring of 1958, but 1 percent less than the 1948-57 average. The 9 States (Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, South Dakota, Nebraska, and Kansas) accounted for 67 percent of the 1958 United States pig crop.